

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph on page 5, between lines 2-8 of the specification with the following:

Returning to the illustrative lamp 1 of the Figure ~~1~~, the leads 7,9 are connected to pin-shaped contacts 13 of their respective bases 12 fixed at opposite ends of the lamp 1. The discharge-sustaining filling includes an inert gas such as argon, or a mixture of argon and other gases, at a low pressure in combination with a small quantity of mercury to sustain an arc discharge during lamp operation. The inner surface 15 of the outer envelope 3 is provided with an undercoat 16 of aluminum oxide as a non-fluorescent material coated with a contiguous layer of an alkaline earth borate formed as follows: